4. Subbasin Assessment – Summary of Past and Present Pollution Control Efforts

There have been several projects that have occurred on the 1998 303(d) listed water bodies in the Little Wood River Subbasin. As to whether or not these projects have helped improve water quality of the targeted water body cannot be said, as there is little data to indicate trends.

A search of the stream channel alteration permit applications (SCAPA) files has indicated that stream channel alteration has occurred on the Little Wood River and Loving Creek. Little Wood River projects have included *stream bank* stabilization with the use of rocks and willows. Loving Creek projects entail sediment removal from the water body (DEQ 2003).

There have been some big projects in the past and some current projects with great potential to affect the Little Wood River:

- A bypass system was set up so that the water from Jim Byrns Slough would enter the Dietrich Canal without mixing or influencing the water within the Little Wood River.
- A current project that could influence the Little Wood River is the Little Wood River Irrigation District gravity pipeline project. It is believed that this project could potentially return some of the Little Wood River water back to the natural channel.
- Some land area of Muldoon Creek allows public access while still restricting heavy usage of the land, decreasing usage of motor activity along the riparian zones of the water body (O' Sullivan 2004).

There are some large portions of land on the 303(d) listed streams that are managed by the BLM. There have been land management practices adopted in certain locations on some of the listed streams. Dry Creek has a small enclosure and they have adopted a new grazing/riparian management system. New grazing decisions made in 2000 for Muldoon Creek include grazing rotations. There is some riparian fencing on the Little Wood River (BLM 2002).

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